

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 /062 W
-----007363 180123Z /70/40

O R 172000Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4569
INFO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2639

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CCY PARA 2 GARBLED)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, DR
SUBJECT: PRESS CONFERENCE OF JORGE BLANCO, PRESIDENT OF PRD

1. JORGE BLANCO, PRESIDENT OF THE DOMINICAN REVOLUTIONARY PARTY
AND SENATORIAL CANDIDATE, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT 9AM, MAY
17, IN WHICH HE GAVE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

2. QUOTE: THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS OF THE ABSOLUTE AND MAJORITY
TRIUMPH OF THE DOMINICAN REVOLUTIONARY PARTY. UNDER THESE
CIRCUMSTANCES WE HAVE BELIEVED IN THE DUTY OF COMMUNICATING
THIS TO THE NATIONAL AND FOREIGN PRESS, IN A MANNER THAT MAKES
CLEAR THE DISCIPLINED POSTURE OF CIVILITY OF THE DOMINICAN
REVOLUTIONARY PARTY WHICH TURNED OUT MASSIVELY IN THE ELECTORAL
PROCESS IN WHICH IT PLACED ALL ITS HOPES OF REVINDICATION BECAUSE
OUR PARTY UNDERSTANDS AS JOSE MARTI UNDERSTOOD, THAT WHEN SUFFRAGE
IS LAW, REVOLUTION IS SUFFRAGE. WE HOPE THAT NORMALITY WILL
RETURN TO THE COUNTRY AND IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE PRD AND ALL OF
ITS LEADERSHIP, PRESENT AND ABSENT, SUPPORTS CIVIL INSTITUTIONALI-
ZATION WHICH IS ONE OF THE AIMS OF THE PRD AND IT EXPECTS THE
MAINTENANCE OF THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

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QUESTION: ARE YOU SURE OF A PRD VICTORY?

BLANCO: THE CALCULATIONS, THAT FOR EXAMPLE WE HAD AT ABOUT
ONE O'CLOCK LAST NIGHT, WERE IN THE NATIONAL DISTRICT, 380,000
VOTES IN FAVOR OF THE PRD AND 100,000 VOTES IN FAVOR OF THE
REFORMIST PARTY. IN ALL OF THE INTERIOR OF THE COUNTRY, 99,067
IN FAVOR OF THE PRD AND 45,489 VOTES IN FAVOR OF THE REFORMIST

PARTY, WHICH INDICATES THAT A DOUBLE TO TRIPLE PROPORTION OF THE VOTERS HAVE FAVORED THE DOMINICAN REVOLUTIONARY PARTY, BUT BECAUSE OF THE SITUATION OF FORCE CREATED, WHICH I CALL ATYPICAL, THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD AND THE BOARD OF THE NATIONAL DISTRICT, WERE OFFERING THESE FIGURES TO US, THE PUBLIC, AS IS THE CUSTOM IN OTHER ELECTORAL PROCESSES AND THIS ENDED WHEN IN EARLY MORNING HOURS, BOTH TOGETHER, THAT IS THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD AND THE BOARD OF THE NATIONAL DISTRICT, WERE PRACTICALLY OCCUPIED BY MILITARY FORCES THAT FORCED THE EMPLOYEES TO END THEIR LABORS AND RETIRE TO THEIR HOUSES. WE, DR FRANCO BADIA AND I, WITH OTHER LEADERS WERE IN THE BOARD OF THE NATIONAL DISTRICT IN THE SQUARE OF MAIMON, COSTANZA AND ESTERN HONDO AND WE WERE THERE UNTIL FIVE AM WHEN WE RECEIVED THE NEWS THAT THE OCCUPATIONS WERE TAKING PLACE AND THEN WE WENT TO OUR HOUSES AND CALLED A CONFERENCE FOR TODAY TO GIVE THESE EXPLANATIONS WHICH WE CONSIDER IMPORTANT FOR ALL THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE. UNQUOTE.

3. COMMENT: WHILE EMBASSY CANNOT VERIFY THE FIGURES GIVEN IN BLANCO'S STATEMENT, IT FEELS THE CONTENT OF THE STATEMENT IS OF SUFFICIENT INTEREST TO WARRANT REPORTING.
YOST

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Message Attributes

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